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(74) Agent: LAWRENCE, Geoffrey, Mark, Prouse; Glaxo-SmithKline, 980 Great West Road, Brentford Middlesex TW8 9GS (GB).

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(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): **GLAXO GROUP LIMITED** [GB/GB]; Glaxo Wellcome House, Berkeley Avenue, Greenford Middlesex UB6 0NN (GB). **THE GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA** [CA/CA]; C/o Industry Liaison Office, 222 Campus Tower, 8625-112 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J9 (CA).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **BARTON, Barry** [GB/GB]; GlaxoSmithKline, Clarendon Road, Worthing West Sussex BN14 8QH (GB). **JENSEN, Susan** [CA/CA]; The Governors of the University of Alberta, 222 Campus Tower, 8625-112 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J9 (CA). **GRiffin, Alison, Michelle** [GB/GB]; GlaxoSmithKline, Clarendon Road, Worthing West Sussex BN14 8QH (GB). **WONG, Annie** [CA/CA]; The Governors of the University of Alberta, 222 Campus Tower, 8625-112 Street, Edmonton, Alberta T6G 2J9 (CA).

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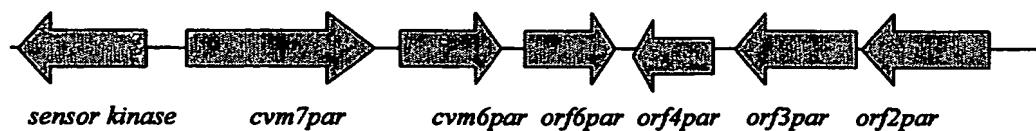
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: NEW PROCESS FOR IMPROVING THE MANUFACTURE OF CLAVAMS E.G. CLAVULANIC ACID



(57) Abstract: New processes for improving the manufacture of clavams e.g. clavulanic acid. Novel DNA sequences and new microorganisms capable of producing increased amounts of clavulanic acid are also disclosed.

WO 2004/092389 A3

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/004001A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER  
IPC 7 C12R1/465 C12P17/18 C12N15/76 C07K14/36

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
IPC 7 C12R C12N C12P C07K

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, EMBL, WPI Data, BIOSIS, EMBASE

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	WO 98/33896 A (UNIV ALBERTA ; SMITHKLINE BEECHAM PLC (GB)) 6 August 1998 (1998-08-06) cited in the application the whole document -----	1-3, 6-10,12
A	LIRAS P ET AL: "CLAVULANIC ACID, A BETA-LACTAMASE INHIBITOR: BIOSYNTHESIS AND MOLECULAR GENETICS" APPLIED MICROBIOLOGY AND BIOTECHNOLOGY, SPRINGER VERLAG, BERLIN, DE, vol. 54, no. 4, 2000, pages 467-475, XP000998142 ISSN: 0175-7598 abstract page 472, column 2, paragraph 3 - page 474; figures 1-3 ----- -/-	1-3, 6-10,12

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents :

- \*A\* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- \*E\* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
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Date of the actual completion of the international search

21 September 2004

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2  
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk  
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl  
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mossier, B

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No  
PCT/EP2004/004001

## C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	MOSHER R H ET AL: "Genes specific for the biosynthesis of clavam metabolites antipodal to clavulanic acid are clustered with the gene for clavaminic acid synthase 1 in <i>Streptomyces clavuligerus</i> " ANTIMICROBIAL AGENTS AND CHEMOTHERAPY, AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR MICROBIOLOGY, WASHINGTON, DC, US, vol. 43, no. 5, May 1999 (1999-05), pages 1215-1224, XP002165205 ISSN: 0066-4804 cited in the application abstract page 1222, column 1, paragraph 3 - page 1223, column 1, paragraph 1 -----	1-3, 6-10,12
A	WO 01/30977 A (GREAVES PHILIP ANDREW ; GRIFFIN ALISON MICHELLE (GB); BARTON BARRY (GB) 3 May 2001 (2001-05-03) abstract; claims 1-10 -----	1-3, 6-10,12
P,A	WO 03/040372 A (ANDERS CECILIA ; JENSEN SUSAN (CA); UNIV ALBERTA (CA); GRIFFIN ALISON) 15 May 2003 (2003-05-15) -----	
A	WO 00/03581 A (MCNAUGHTON HEATHER JANE ; THIRKETTLE JAN EDWARD (GB); BARTON BARRY (GB) 27 January 2000 (2000-01-27) -----	

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/EP2004/004001

### Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
  
2.  Claims Nos.: because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:
  
3.  Claims Nos.: because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

### Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple Inventions in this International application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
  
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
  
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
  
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-3, 10 (complete), and 6-9, 12 (partially)

Remark on Protest

The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.

No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2004/004001

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